

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Decision on Request for Rehearing.

Claims 1 and 15 were the subject of the appeal proceedings. The Examiner's final rejection of claims 1 and 15 has been affirmed. Claims 4-13 have been allowed. Claims 2, 3, 14 have been objected to by the Examiner as being de[p]endent upon a rejected claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claim.

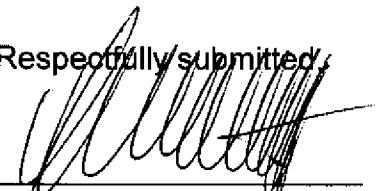
Accordingly, applicant has now canceled independent claim 1. Claim 15 has now made dependent on claim 14 which has been rewritten in independent form to place it in condition for allowance. Claim 2 has also been rewritten in independent form to place it in condition for allowance. Claim 3 has been amended to make it dependent on claim 2. The fee of \$210.00 for filing one independent claim in excess of three is enclosed.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the Examiner feels that it might be helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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Date: October 3, 2007
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